Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

The Benedictine School --- ID #: 005-0201
January 1, through December 31, 2009

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. Our water source is from ground water that is drawn from two wells in the Aquia Aquifer and the Federalsburg Aquifer. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Mr. Richard Jordan at 410-634-2115 ext. 1-430. We want our school personnel, parents and students to be informed about their water utility.

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to State and Federal laws. The test results that are shown are for the year 2009 unless otherwise noted. As water travels over the land or underground it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

Below you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we have provided the following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND) - Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Action Level (AL) - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal" (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

TESTS RESULTS BENEDICTINE SCHOOL 2009 WELLS #3 AND #5

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological:						
Total Coliform Bacteria	Presence of coliform bacteria in 2 monthly samples	0	N	<1	100/ml	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal coliform and E. coli	A routine sample and repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive	0	N	<1	100/ml	Human and animal fecal waste
Radioactive:						
Radium - 228 (2003)	5	0	N	< 1.5	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic:						
Arsenic (2008)	0.010	0.01	N	.0034	mg/l	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (2007)	AL=1300	1300	N	.28	mg/l	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Fluoride (10 month avg.)	4.0	4.0	N	1.71	mg/l	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (11 month avg.)	10	n/a	N	9.05	mg/l	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from septic tanks; sewage.
Lead (2007)	AL=15	0	N	0	mg/l	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Unregulated:						
Sodium (2008)	none	n/a	N	136	mg/l	Naturally present in the environment; by-product of drinking water processes.

Note: Some testing is not required annually. Fluoride did violate the secondary maximum contaminant level, in January with a result of 2.8 mg/l, in February with a result of 2.6 mg/l and in March with a result of 2.4 mg/l. The system also was in violation of the MCL for Nitrate in October with results of 11.5 mg/l and 11.42 mg/l.

The Benedictine School 2009

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals and radioactive substances. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by contacting the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at **1-800-426-4791.**

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Total Coliform: The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio.

Lead: "If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Benedictine School is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead."

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water then the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Mr. Jordan and his staff work very hard to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all of our residents help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

This report was prepared by:
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